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Waldheim: Arafat wants personal invitation to Geneva

UNITED NATIONS, March 1 (R). — United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim said today at a new conference that the best that can be hoped for in the Middle East situation is the resumption of the Geneva peace conference in the second half of this year. Dr. Waldheim said that Mr. Yasser Arafat, head of the PLO, had told him in Damascus that he wanted a personal invitation to the conference, but could not say whether he would accept it if it was issued.

JORDAN TIMES

An independent political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردن تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الراي»

Volume 2, Number 398

AMMAN, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 1977 — RABIE AWAL 12, 1397

Price : 50 fils

Lebanese F.M. says government has "no control" over situation in south

BEIRUT, March 1 (R). — Lebanese Foreign Minister Fuad Butros said today the government had no control over the troubled situation in the southern part of the country near the border with Israel. He was addressing a joint meeting of the Defence and Foreign Affairs Committees of the Lebanese parliament. "He told them President Elias Sarkis was trying in collaboration with Arab and friendly states to contain the situation in the region, which is troubled by continuing clashes between the leftist-Palestinian alliance and rightwing forces. "But I regret to say that we have no control over the situation in that area," he added. Earlier Mr. Butros conferred with Soviet Ambassador Alexander Solodov, who told newsmen the stationing of an international force near Lebanon's borders with Israel was under discussion. A statement issued at the end of today's meeting of the parliamentary committees called on the government to give priority to tackling the situation in the south as a joint Arab responsibility. Israel objected when Syrian troops of the Arab League force were deployed in the Nabatieh district, about 11 kms. from the

frontier, and they were redeployed following mediation by the U.S. In Cairo last night Syrian President Hafez Assad told newsmen the Arab decision was to deploy Arab troops in southern Lebanon. "If it were up to us, Syria would have sent troops there, but the matter concerns Lebanon," he said. The speaker of Lebanon's parliament, Mr. Kamel As'ad, told the parliamentary committees that a legal authority should be created to impose security in the south. Mr. As'ad, a southerner himself, asked: "Is a United Nations force sufficient to put an end to what is happening?" He said there was a difference between an observer force and a deterrent force. In a written statement to the committees, later released to the press, Mr. Butros said the situation in the south apparently reflected internal, Arab and international "contradictions". The deployment of peace forces there had "provoked Israel's aggressive spirit", and caused a crisis which almost went out of control, he stated. The foreign minister said Lebanon wanted to take part in the Geneva peace conference

although it had no territorial dispute with Israel. He handed a memorandum on the government's attitude towards Geneva to Mr. Soldatov today. Yesterday the gave it to U.S. Ambassador Richard Parker. Meanwhile, Israeli correspondents said today that Palestinian guerrillas were shelling parts of southern Lebanon within sight of the Israeli border town of Metulla with short-range 122-mm "Grad" rockets. Villagers have complained to Israeli military correspondents, saying the rockets are being fired from the east, where the frontier angles away towards Mount Hermon, as well as from the west. The relative calm which prevailed yesterday was broken only by automatic arms fire, but in the evening the thump of exploding shells could be heard from the Israeli side of the border.

Sharon offers Jordan as solution to Palestinian problem

LONDON, March 1 (R). — One of Israel's top soldiers turned politician, former Maj. Gen. Ariel (Arik) Sharon, said in London today that Jordan should be a Palestinian state. Mr. Sharon, who in 1973 led the crossing of the Suez Canal, has formed a new political party called Sholomzion to fight the forthcoming Israeli general elections. A central plank in his electoral programme is that Israel should be ready to negotiate with any Arab party including the Palestinians. "I prefer Jordan as a Palestinian state. Jordan should be a Palestinian state," Mr. Sharon said. Asked about the possible borders of this state, Mr. Sharon indicated he thought it should be on the East Bank of Jordan. According to Mr. Sharon, who flew in to London today from the United States for three days of talks with British politicians and prominent members of the Jewish community, the peace should be in two phases. The first would be a contractual peace, the second "a true peace" when economic and trading relations develop and flourish. He said it was important for Israel to talk with a unified Arab delegation representing an Arab consensus. "We can't talk separately with Arab countries because we might be told to make concessions to each in turn and then handed the Palestinian bill to pay." Asked with whom among the Palestinians he would prefer to negotiate, Mr. Sharon replied that "if the Palestinian Liberation Organisation were nominated... I would be willing to talk with them."

Rabin promises Peres defence portfolio if Labour wins

TEL AVIV, March 1 (R). — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin has yielded to strong Labour Party pressure and will re-appoint his chief political rival, Mr. Shimon Peres, as defence minister if Labour wins the May general elections, party sources said today. The two men met yesterday to hammer out an agreement after last week's party convention narrowly chose Mr. Rabin as party leader over Mr. Peres. Sources close to the two leaders said Defence Minister Peres wanted assurances that his supporters would be "adequately and properly represented in all party posts, including the next government." Before the party vote, the prime minister said publicly that Mr. Peres would be appointed to a key post if Labour won but declined to identify the specific office. Party sources say Mr. Rabin planned to take on the defence ministry as well as the premiership. But party officials, headed by Secretary General Meir Zarmi, persuaded Mr. Rabin in week-end talks to reconsider. Party sources said Mr. Rabin promised Mr. Peres the Defence Ministry although the question of representation for the defence minister's supporters "must still be worked out."

Vance: U.S. anti-boycott legislation may affect M.E. peace

WASHINGTON, March 1 (R). — U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance told reporters yesterday that the proposed American legislation to counter the Arab economic boycott against Israel may affect peace efforts for a Middle East settlement. Mr. Vance said yesterday that although he strongly agrees with the new legislation asking the American companies not to go along with the boycott, he believes that the two bills presently before Congress should be reworded. The Arab states he visited in February did not specify how these bills could affect peace endeavours in the Middle East. "They may not help as much as influence the atmosphere of trying to achieve peace in the region," he added. In answer to a question, Mr. Vance concluded that the new bills in their present form may not help prevent a rise in oil prices and also would not encourage Arab investment in U.S.

Vance urged to cancel Hawk missile deal with Saudis

WASHINGTON, March 1 (R). — Secretary of State Cyrus Vance was urged today to cancel a planned sale of 680 improved Hawk missiles to Saudi Arabia on the grounds that it threatened the Middle East strategic balance. In a letter to Mr. Vance made public today, Democratic Congressman Benjamin Rosenthal, of New York, said the sale would nearly double Saudi Arabia's Hawk missile arsenal. Mr. Rosenthal, a member of the House of Representatives International Relations Committee, said in view of the recent cancellation of the sale of concussion bombs to Israel, denial of the Hawks "could not be viewed by the Saudis as a one-sided decision." He said the \$1.14 billion commercial sale by the Raytheon company was rushed to conclusion last year to avoid congressional scrutiny. He said if the deal was not cancelled, it should be handled as a government-to-government sale subject to congressional review. Mr. Rosenthal also urged cancellation of the sale of 1,650 television-guided Maverick missiles to the Saudis.

Gush Emunim calls on supporters to back candidates in favour of unlimited settlement

ROSH HA'AYIN, Israel, March 1 (R). — A rally of 5,000 Israeli ultra-nationalists called on the government today to permit unlimited Jewish settlement in occupied Arab areas. The crowd belonging to the Gush Emunim (Faith Bloc) movement was protesting here against government refusal to allow some of them to settle at the town of Mas'ha inside the West Bank. The government allows only limited settlements in occupied areas which it deems "essential to national defence."

Carter proposes new department to coordinate U.S. energy policies

WASHINGTON, March 1 (R). — President Carter today proposed a new department of energy as the first step in a stringent programme to end energy wastage and to reduce oil imports. In a recommendation to Congress Mr. Carter said the new department, to be headed by former Defence Secretary James Schlesinger, would replace several government bodies with overlapping responsibilities. The proposed legislation would abolish the Federal Energy Agency (FEA), the Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA), the Federal Power Commission (FPC), and several other agencies dealing with energy. Mr. Carter said uncoordinated energy policies were at least partly to blame for the serious impact made on the country by recent severe cold weather. He urged Congress to end the present system under which several government departments were allowed to carry out more than 100 separate energy programmes. On April 20, a national energy policy is due to be unveiled.

iled and President Carter has already said it will contain compulsory measures to save energy and will call for sacrifices by the American people. Mr. Carter, who has urged Americans to turn their central heating thermostats down to 65 degrees Fahrenheit (18 degrees centigrade) because of the recent shortage of natural gas, has complained that the United States is the only industrialised country without a national energy policy. Today he denied to reporters that he intended to propose a 20 to 25 per cent increase in the federal petrol tax, which at present stands at four cents a gallon.

Ethiopia reacts angrily to Khartoum accord

ADDIS ABABA, March 1 (R). — Ethiopia today described as "hegemonic and interventionist" statements made by three Arab leaders at the Khartoum summit yesterday about control of the Red Sea area. Commenting on the outcome of the meeting between the Presidents of the Sudan, Egypt and Syria in the Sudanese capital, a Foreign Ministry spokesman here expressed "surprise and concern" that statements to the effect that the Red Sea was an "Arab lake" should be made on the eve of next week's Cairo summit on Afro-Arab cooperation. "African statesmen participating at the conference can but regard such statements as a foreboding curtain-raiser to the kind of cooperation that some Arab governments have in mind," he said. "Ethiopia, as a coastal state of the Red Sea, closely watches developments in the region and does not therefore view with indifference the attempts of a self-appointed group of states to arrogate to themselves decision-making on matters affecting Ethiopia's maritime sovereignty in her part of the Red Sea," he said. Meanwhile, in Khartoum, Egyptian Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmy said in a statement broadcast by Radio Omdurman today that Ethiopia would regret its action "very much" if reports that it had invited the Israeli navy to occupy an island in the southern part of the Red Sea proved correct.

They fear Soviet influence in the Horn of Africa and informed sources in Khartoum said Saudi Arabia had been having talks for some time with the Somali Democratic Republic, probably in an attempt to wean it away from its close relationship with Moscow, which has naval facilities in Somali ports. President Hafez Assad said in Cairo last night after the Khartoum summit that there had already been contacts between Egypt, Sudan, Somalia, and South Yemen on Red Sea security. Saudi money is a potent factor in Arab politics, not least in a matter like the Red Sea where Saudi security interests are so closely affected. Informed sources said that when Saudi Oil Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani visited Khartoum last weekend he carried a message from Crown Prince Fahd to President Nimeiri which dealt among other things with Red Sea security. The final communique said that the three states taking part would "take the initiative in laying down a unified strategy on this (Red Sea) issue with other states in the area being invited to take part in it." If Eritrea wins independence and moves into the Arab camp and if Djibouti -- the French Territory of the Afars and the Issas -- does the same when its colonial ties are broken this summer, only a few miles of Israeli beach at Eilat will prevent the Red Sea becoming a wholly Arab lake.

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Begin warns against Rabin-Carter deal

JERUSALEM, March 1 (R). — Israeli opposition leader Menachem Begin said today that Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was not authorised to make any political commitments during his Washington talks next week with U.S. President Jimmy Carter. Speaking at a meeting of his right of centre Likud Party's council here, convened to formulate the party's platform for the general elections in May, Mr. Begin said: "I call on Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin not to make any political commitments in the United States, because he simply is not authorised to make such commitments." He attacked the Labour Party decision to agree to territorial concessions on the West Bank in peace negotiations and outlined the Likud Party's stand on this question: "Israel's rights in Judea and Samaria (the occupied West Bank) will not be handed over to any foreign regime, and the territory between the (Mediterranean) Sea and the (River) Jordan will be exclusively under Israeli sovereignty," Mr. Begin declared.

Euro-communist summit in Madrid opens amidst strict security today

MADRID, March 1 (R). — The Spanish Communist Party recruited its own tough militants today to guard Western Europe's three leading communist parties during their two-day conference starting here tomorrow. The three are Santiago Carrillo of Spain, Georges Marchais of France and Enrico Berlinguer of Italy, all advocates of Euro-communism which stresses independence from the Soviet Union and multi-party democracy. "We are not leaving security matters to the police," a Communist Party spokesman told Reuters. "We are making our own security arrangements and providing our own bodyguards." The Communists apparently fear possible attacks from ultra-rightwingers who regard communism as Spain's greatest enemy -- a maxim preached by the late Gen. Francisco Franco for 40 years. The government has turned down a Communist Party request to hold a rally tomorrow at which Senor Carrillo, 61,

had hoped to present his French and Italian comrades to about 1,500 Spanish militants. The Madrid civil governor's office said permission could not be granted because the Supreme Court was still considering the Communist Party's application for legal status. The party spokesman said the government's reaction had been expected. But talks between the three leaders would not be banned because the meeting was private and involved only a few people, he said. This first organised meeting of Euro-communists is to be held in a luxury hotel. The Communist Party asked reporters not to publish its name for fear of ultra-rightwing pickets and violence. Only last week police raided a clandestine ultra-rightist arms factory in the centre of Madrid. They detained Senor Mariano Sanchez Corvea, leader of the extreme rightwing Spanish group Guerrillas of Christ the King and eight Italians.

Smith cabinet moves to drastically reduce exclusively white areas

SALISBURY, Mar. 1 (AFP). — The Rhodesian government today proposed slashing exclusively white areas of Rhodesia from 18 million hectares to 200,000 hectares in a bill amending the Land Tenure Act. Presenting the bill to parliament, Lands Minister Mark Partridge said it resulted from the government's "enlightened policy" of seeking to improve the lives of all Rhodesians. Despite the proposed radical changes, some segregation would be retained, Mr. Partridge said, mainly in segregated schools and hospitals and white urban areas, although provision had been made for future changes to the latter. Mr. Partridge said the 39 million hectares comprising Rhodesia was equally divided between the 280,000 whites and more than six million blacks at present. The black and white areas each had 18 million hectares and there were three million hectares of national land, such as game parks. Under the bill the exclusively white areas would be reduced to less than half a per cent of the total. The bill effectively changed a situation which had governed land ownership and occupancy since 1895, Mr. Partridge said. This system had been supported by successive Rhodesian governments and had been condoned by various British governments of the total, he said. It was not intended to change the exclusive rights of blacks

to the 16 million hectares of tribal trust lands, Mr. Partridge said, and whites would continue to be barred from these areas. In contrast, white farming areas would be opened to people of all races, he said. "It is better to meet the need for change than to endeavour to sustain positions and attitudes which can only be regarded as inimical to our peoples' interests," he added. "We must move with the times. Let us do so cheerfully and intelligently and with good hope for the future," he said. These remarks were believed to be directed mainly at those government backbenchers and ruling Rhodesian Front party leaders who are known to oppose the bill's principles.

Amin-Americans meeting indefinitely postponed, Radio Uganda reports

NAIROBI, March 1 (R). — Americans in Uganda are free to leave the country if they wish following the indefinite postponement of their meeting with President Idi Amin tomorrow, Radio Uganda reported today. Tomorrow has now been declared a public holiday in Uganda in celebration of the Prophet Mohammad's birthday, but the radio did not say if this is connected with the decision to put off the already once-postponed meeting between the president and the 249 U.S. residents in Uganda. Concern for the safety of the Americans was aroused after President Amin ordered them last week not to leave Uganda until he had met them. The president last Friday accused the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) of involvement in an abortive plot against his government. The latest announcement over Radio Uganda clearly relieved U.S. officials in Nairobi after several days of tension, although members of the president's entourage told newsmen over the phone from Kampala they still expected the meeting to take place.

Secret 1958 pact between Israel, Turkey, Iran, Ethiopia revealed in Ben Gurion book

TEL AVIV, March 1 (R). — Israel, Turkey, Iran and Ethiopia signed a secret pact in 1958 to try to stop the Soviet Union from expanding its influence in the Middle East, an aide of former Prime Minister David Ben Gurion said in a book published here this week. Author Michael Bar-Zohar said Mr. Ben Gurion flew secretly to Ankara in August, 1958, to sign the pact with the then Turkish Premier Adnan Menderes. Iran and Ethiopia signed shortly afterwards, he wrote. In his book Ben Gurion: A Political Biography, Mr. Bar-Zohar said the pact was concluded because the Western World was perturbed by what it saw as political advances by the Soviet Union in Iraq, Syria, Lebanon and Egypt in the years immediately after the tripartite attack on the Suez Canal in 1956. Egypt had nationalised the canal, and ensuing military intervention by Britain, France and Israel was stopped by the United Nations. Mr. Bar-Zohar maintained close links with Mr. Ben Gurion's family and closest associates after the former premier's death in 1973, and has had access to some of Mr. Ben Gurion's private papers. In his book, he said Israel had proposed a pact between the four countries, and President Dwight Eisenhower and Secretary of State John Foster Dulles had quickly accepted and supported the idea. Mr. Bar-Zohar thinks that Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser was being used by Moscow to penetrate the Middle East. The pact was aimed only at stopping the Soviet Union, not at toppling President Nasser, he claims. All four governments implemented the pact, though its present status was unknown, he said. The Hebrew-language book is a follow up to a previous volume by the author on Mr. Ben Gurion's life.

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JORDAN TIMES

An independent Arab political daily
published by the Jordan Press Foundation

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The nail's head

U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim has given his report to the Security Council about his mission to the Middle East last month, and he has hit the nail on the head. The central point he makes is that there must be "mutual recognition" of the claims of both sides to the conflict, and specifically that the PLO and Israel have to redefine their attitudes towards one another in order to allow some progress to be made towards an overall Middle East peace settlement. Mr. Waldheim has done well to point out that the question of Palestinian participation at the Geneva Middle East Peace Conference cannot be surmounted by "purely procedural means without certain changes in attitudes on all sides."

The false impression that has been built up over the past several months is that a Middle East peace could be had if we could somehow get over the hurdle of Palestinian representation at Geneva. The difficulty is that the PLO question, time and again, brings us up against the ramparts of Israeli obstinacy. It has seemed possible to some to overcome these obstacles by calling the Palestinian question a "procedural" one. In effect, the entire world has seen it to be appropriately expedient to bow down to Israel and find a way to leap the Palestinian hurdle. So everybody has been trying to redefine and remould the Palestinians into a shape and form that fits into the world that Israel wants to see. The process is doomed to failure because it is based on capitulation, irrational and blind submission to an irrational and blind Israel, and a desire to cover up the truths of history instead of meeting them head-on. A Middle East peace settlement based on this line of thinking will be as durable as the Vietnam peace settlement worked out in Paris by Mr. Kissinger.

Mr. Waldheim's report is more realistic in that it seeks to elicit a compromise by both the Palestinians and the Israelis. The time is certainly propitious for this sort of compromise; and if the world's peace-makers are serious, they should go about their task by nudging both sides towards the middle, and not simply by trying to make the Palestinian question go away by calling it a procedural one.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Two of the Jordanian dailies commented Tuesday on the interview delivered by His Majesty King Hussein to the U.S. weekly Newsweek magazine in which he challenged the Washington Post daily and what it had published in defamation of the Jordanian leaders, while the third daily discussed the Syrian-Egyptian-Sudanese summit conference held in Khartoum.

AL RAT said it had previously decided to ignore the Washington Post article as its very publication or even a denial of the veracity of its contents would have served the purpose for which it had been written. Its goal, the paper adds, and that of those who support it are purely political as the U.S. is not concerned with the morality of leaders. The manner and the timing of its publication indicate so, its purpose was to weaken the Jordanian position vis-a-vis the Arab world and in future peace negotiations. With Jordan's position weakened and the role of the Palestine Liberation Organisation ignored, it would become easier for Israel to keep on the occupied lands and help it in imposing an Israeli peace.

Those who know Jordan, are well aware of its strong position on the Arab level and are sure that it will refuse to be weakened by such elementary American political manoeuvres, the paper concluded.

AL SHA'B in its Tuesday editorial said that His Majesty in his interview with Newsweek magazine explained the fabrication and truth distortions carried by the Washington Post daily as being aimed at destroying the international peace efforts to find a just and permanent peace settlement. This aim was made more clear as the article was published at the start of U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance's Middle East tour.

It is not a coincidence that such accusations be made against Jordan at a time when the will for peace is increasing at the international level. Israel knows the important role which Jordan & its leaders have played in that field. These accusations were solely made with the intent to paralyse Jordan's essential role in the peace process.

We in Jordan are not ashamed of the financial help we get, as this is not used for personal ends but for the development and prosperity of the country and to enable it to achieve its national goals, the paper concluded.

AL DUSTOUR under the heading "The Khartoum declaration" says that the news of Sudan's joining the joint Egyptian-Syrian political command indicates that the Arab march towards unity and integration has once again been activated, following the example set by Jordan and Syria in that field. What we do not doubt, the paper adds, is that what we are now witnessing on the Arab level is the right way for the Arabs to build their political, military and economic strength. This buildup will give the added political weight on the international scene and the ability to liberate the occupied territories, and ensure the security of the Red Sea region, which will remain forever an Arab zone of influence. The Khartoum declaration also convinces us, the paper adds, that the Arabs have not been diverted by the Geneva conference from their original goal: that of their unity.



Washington policies cloud U.S.-Saudi relations

RIYADH (CSM). — Only two clouds now seem to shadow the otherwise clear horizons of growing cooperation between the United States and Saudi Arabia.

Both of these clouds, the Saudis argue, are made in Washington.

One is the prospect that the Carter administration might accede to pressure from Israel's supporters inside and outside the U.S. Congress, and back legislation outlawing all forms of cooperation with the Arab economic boycott of Israel. This could make it impossible for many U.S. firms and products to continue getting the lion's share of Saudi petrodollar income — estimated by Saudi officials at 50 billion dollars or more by 1980, and by some Americans here at more than that figure.

The second cloud is last October's U.S. tax reform law, which already has caused several hundred of the estimated 30,000 Americans living and working here to go home to lower tax rates and many more to consider leaving or not signing contracts to come here. Though this concerns only Americans, it has the Saudis worried about the possibility of losing American technology and know-how they need and appreciate.

Saudi Arabia's U.S.-trained young technocrats, like Farouk al-Akhdar, chairman of a Saudi royal commission supervising major industrial, port and pipeline projects here, believe that most Americans have still not

understood that the Arab boycott of Israel is a political measure, like U.S. boycott of Cuba or China, not a matter of religious discrimination against Jews.

"We are sorry if the boycott issue excludes U.S. firms from Saudi Arabia," Mr. Akhdar says. "They are good companies and work well. We empathize with them. If they go, we will be sorry, because we prefer them, but others — Japanese, West Germans, French — can and will take their place. The same is true for the tax law."

"These ridiculous actions by the U.S. Congress," Mr. Akhdar continued, "are opposed more to the American interest than ours. They make us certain that this is an Israeli effort aimed at ruining American business with the Arab world, which is growing steadily despite everything."

"The U.S.," says Hisham Nasser, Saudi Minister of Planning, "must stop allowing a few well-organized people there to try to make its Arab friends into enemies. The boycott is a negative issue. Constant focus on such negative issues makes it tougher to keep our friendship."

"Anyway, the boycott is just one of many secondary issues arising from the Arab-Israeli conflict. Stop focusing on secondary issues, and go after the central one. Once a peace settlement is under way, the boycott and other such problems will disappear by themselves."

"Even if Congress does exclude some U.S. firms from working here," says Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, the Saudi Oil Minister, "this is not likely

to affect the Arabian American Oil Company (Aramco), its four parent U.S. firms (Exxon, Texaco, Socon, and Mobil), or its main contractors on such huge projects as the 8-billion dollar natural-gas gathering and power network in Saudi Arabia."

Nor, adds the U.S. Agency for International Development's John P. Hummon, director of the U.S. side of the Saudi-U.S. Joint Commission on Economic Cooperation, will it affect our projects. These include purchasing of major electric power facilities for the kingdom, and aid by 90 government U.S. experts now working here under Commission auspices to improve Saudi education, manpower problems, census and statistics matters, agriculture and other fields.

Big U.S. defence contractors, like Raytheon (installing an air defence system here), Northrop (supplying jet combat and trainer aircraft), or Vinnell Corporation (training the Saudi National Guard), need fear the anti-boycott legislation. Many of these work with Israel. But this is not a matter of concern to the Saudis because the companies' payment and purchasing practices do not infringe boycott rules.

But the new income tax legislation — excluding only up to 15,000 dollars of income of Americans earned overseas instead of 25,000 or 20,000 dollars as before, and applying higher tax rates — will cause U.S. citizens to return to the States, thereby causing more unemployment and a general loss of tax revenue. So it is argued in an open letter to President Carter signed by a group of U.S. civilians working here and published in the Jeddah newspaper, Arab News.

NEW FOCUS

Angola forges ahead despite handicaps and great shortages

LUANDA, Feb. 28, (R). — In the port here, two scuttled Portuguese gunboats provide a poignant memorial to more than 400 years of colonial rule that ended, less than 18 months ago, in chaos.

High in the city, a captured French-built armoured car has replaced a statue perched on top of an imposing stone column — testimony to the devastating civil war that followed the panicky exodus of hundreds of thousands of Portuguese.

Angola and its socialist government has still not fully recovered from its bloody caesarean birth as an independent state on November 11, 1975.

The thousands of Soviet, Cuban and East European experts in the country have so far been unable to replace the know-how taken away by the Portuguese who formerly ruled the strategically important West African nation.

Food is scarce and transport within this vast country, with its potential oil, diamond, and coffee riches, has yet to be revived. Skirmishing with anti-government forces in the north and south is continuing, Angolan officials say.

Angolan gained its independence after protracted guerrilla warfare against the Portuguese by three liberation movements — the MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola), the FNLA (National Front for the Liberation of Angola) and Unita (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola).

In months before independence, the groups turned on each other and fought a civil war, in which the MPLA, helped by Russian-armed Cubans, defeated the FNLA and Unita, backed variously by China, Western powers and South Africa.

Luandans are constantly reminded of the MPLA victory by thousands of slogans daubed on virtually every vertical surface in the city. The legacy of the war is also apparent in the food queues, empty shops, the shuttered restaurants and the absence of transport, although there is no sign of physical damage.

"I was in Italy after World War II," a foreign visitor remarked. "The shops and everything remind me of then."

However, unlike Western Europe in the late 1940s, Angola has no United States Marshall Aid Plan to pump vast amounts of cash into its reconstruction.

"We have problems, many problems," an MPLA official said. "We do not try to hide them. We have to educate our children and our adults. We are politically independent but economically dependent still."

The problems seem immense. The civil war played havoc with agriculture and badly damaged the roads and railways needed to distribute agricultural produce and bring machinery to the farms.

Most of the country's lorries were sabotaged or taken out of the country either by the

departing Portuguese or by rival liberation movements, officials said.

Around 130 bridges have still to be repaired, according to informed sources.

The middle-range and senior technicians, mainly Portuguese, who ran the country before independence have left and there is a big gap in the country's administration, adding to the reconstruction problems.

Since independence, Angola has looked to Cuba, the Soviet Union and East European states for help in providing experts and material to rebuild the country, although their expertise has not always suited Angola's needs.

ANGOLA

The Cubans — a source of apprehension in the West — are regarded here as friends.

"We do not worry about having Cuban soldiers and experts in our country," one official said. "They do not rule our country. We rule it."

Eyewitnesses said they had seen cheering residents greet a truckload of Cuban soldiers driving through the city.

There are indications, however, that Angola is prepared to open its doors to the West provided that investors conform with MPLA ground rules.

"We want to diversify our aid," an official said, "but we do not want the kind of aid that comes with neo-colonialism."

France was the latest western country to establish diplomatic relations with Angola, joining Italy and Sweden in setting up embassies here.

President Agostinho Neto's recent meeting with Mr. Andrew Young, the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, has raised speculation that Washington may soon establish ties with Angola.

MPLA officials say their socialist ideology does not preclude ties with the West, particularly in areas where Angola's traditional allies are unable to help.

A subsidiary of the American Gulf Oil Company still operates Angola's rich offshore oilfields off its northern enclave of Cabinda, providing badly-needed foreign exchange royalties for the government.

"Why should we tell them to go? It would only damage our people's interests," an official said.

Swedish trucks and Italian jeeps are being imported and the American Boeing Company is providing aircraft, training and group equipment for Angolan airlines.

The government insists that imports of machinery or equip-

ment be accompanied by training courses for Angolan technicians.

"Let me make this clear. We have socialist principles. These have not changed and will not change. But we are also realistic," an MPLA official said.

Angola's problems are increased by the tension that exists between it and neighbouring states in the north and south. MPLA officials accuse Zaire of harbouring FNLA and FLEC (Front for the Liberation of Cabinda) guerrillas mounting cross-border raids into Angola.

Officials say that the bitterness between the two countries is one of the main reasons for Angola's refusal to reopen the Benguela railway — formerly a major export route for copper and other minerals and for general imports.

The 2,000-kilometre British-owned line snakes from Angola's Atlantic seaboard to mineral-rich provinces of both Zaire and Zambia, with whom Angola's relations are also uneasy.

It was closed by the fighting in August 1975, and Unita says it continues to sabotage the line.

In the south, Angola says South Africa is still supporting Unita forces from Namibia (South West Africa), the former German colony on Angola's southern border now administered by South Africa.

A blow against anti-government forces was struck last month in the "kwanza operation". Inside three days, MPLA officials changed over from the old Angolan escudo to a new unit of currency — the kwanza, bearing a portrait of the bespectacled President Neto, wearing a flat cap.

The move prevented currency black marketing and removed the risk of the millions of Angolan escudos in Portuguese banks being used to unbalance the economy.

One main aim, officials said, was to prevent anti-MPLA guerrillas from buying food, support and arms inside Angola with their own holdings of the old escudo.

According to MPLA officials, arms imports are continuing to replace material damaged by the departing Portuguese. Soviet-built Mig-fighters are a common sight over Luanda, residents say.

The MPLA, despite its limited manpower, is seeking to solve its problems with its own resources.

Last year, thousands of Angolans were mobilised to pick the country's coffee crop — Angola was once second only to Brazil as a world coffee producer.

There seems to be no shortage of freeze-dried Angolan coffee in the shops here, and MPLA officials said coffee bean exports to the U.S. were continuing.

Placards exhort Luandans to have "disciplined and productive" youth — symbolised here by the wearing of giant platform shoes — is formed upon, and cooperatives have been organised in the suburbs to distribute equally what food there is.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION

Channel 3 & 6:

6:00 Quran
6:05 Cartoons
6:30 Agricultural programme
7:00 Lucy show
8:00 News in Arabic

Channel 3:

7:30 Sports programme
8:30 Arabic series
9:20 Reportage

Channel 6:

7:30 News in Hebrew
7:45 Varieties
8:30 Doctor in charge
9:10 The Falliers
10:00 News in English
10:15 Mystery movie (McMillan)

RADIO JORDAN

(On 856 KHZ)

7:00 Morning melodies
7:30 News report
8:00 Sign off
12:00 Pop session
13:00 News summary
13:05 Pop session
14:00 News
14:10 Radio magazine
14:30 Arabs in history
15:00 Concert hour
16:00 Old favourites

16:30 Easy listening
17:00 Good vibrations (repeat)
17:30 Pop session
18:00 News summary
18:05 Pop session
18:15 Catch the words (repeat)
18:30 My kind of music (repeat)
19:00 News
19:10 News reports
19:30 Sign off

EMERGENCIES

Doctors:

Amman:
Muwafaq Khazneh
Katibeh (41277)
Jamil Zuhdi Maraka (37824)
Irbid:
Said Dahmash
Zarga:
Ghazi Roussan
Pharmacies:
No details were available on

pharmacies in Amman and Irbid. The Jordan Times apologises for this omission.

Zarga:
Hayat Saleh
Taxis:
Jerusalem (39655)
Shamsani (21523)
Neel (44433)
Mahd (22038)

AMMAN AIRPORT

Arrivals:

8:20 Muscat, Doha
8:20 Dubai (Alitalia)
8:45 Karachi, Abu Dhabi
9:15 Jeddah
9:50 Aqaba
10:30 Beirut
14:15 Athens (GA)
14:20 Jeddah (SDI)
16:00 Kuwait (KAC)
16:30 Aleppo, Damascus
17:00 Cairo
17:15 Larnaca (CY)
17:55 Amsterdam, Brussels, Geneva
19:40 Beirut (MEA)
20:05 London (BA)
21:25 Frankfurt, Munich, Damascus (Lufthansa)

Departures:

8:00 Beirut
8:00 Aqaba
8:45 Beirut (MEA)
9:05 Rome (Alitalia)
10:30 Cairo
10:50 Athens, Amsterdam
11:00 Vienna, Copenhagen
11:15 Damascus, Aleppo
12:00 London
15:00 Doha, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GA)
15:45 Riyadh, Dhahran (SDI)
17:00 Kuwait (KAC)
18:00 Larnaca (CY)
18:55 Kuwait, Dhahran
20:00 Baghdad
21:05 Rawalpindi (BA)

BBC RADIO

GMT

05:00 World News; 24 hours
05:30 Sarah Ward
05:45 The World Today
06:00 News; Press Review
06:30 Terry Wogan's LP Showcase
07:00 News; 24 hours
07:30 Sarah Ward
07:45 Report on Religion
08:00 News
08:15 Lucky Jim
08:30 John Peel
09:00 News; Press Review
09:30 Financial News
09:45 Paperbacks
10:00 Talkabout
10:30 Command Performance
11:00 News
11:15 Business and Industry
11:30 Farming World
12:00 Radio Newsweek
12:15 David Gell's Music
12:45 Sports Round-up
13:00 News; 24 hours
13:30 World Radio Club
13:45 A Jolly Good Show

14:30 The Conquest of Small-Pox
15:00 Radio Newsweek
15:15 Outlook
16:00 News; Commentary
16:15 Just a Minute
16:45 The World Today
17:00 News
17:09 Discovery
17:40 Book Choice
17:45 Sports Round-up
18:00 News; Radio Newsweek
18:30 Top Twenty
19:00 Outlook: News Summary
19:40 Stock Market Report
19:45 Dances of Old Vienna
20:00 News; 24 hours
20:30 David Gell's Music
21:00 Report on Religion
21:15 Wales 77
21:30 Composer and Interpreter
22:00 News; The World Today
22:25 Financial News
22:45 Sports Round-up
23:00 News; Commentary

VOICE OF AMERICA

GMT 03:00 to 06:30

The Breakfast Show: 03:00, 04:00, 05:00 and 06:00
GMT: News, Regional and Topical Reports; VOA Current News Summary.
03:30, 04:30 and 05:30
GMT: An informal presentation of popular music with feature reports and interviews, answers to listeners' questions, Science Digest.
17:00 News Roundup, Reports, Actualities, Opinion, Analysis, News Summary.
17:30 Dateline.

18:00 Special English, News, Feature: Space and Man. News Summary.
18:30 Music USA (Standards)
19:00 News Roundup, Reports, Actualities, Opinion, Analysis, News Summary.
19:30 VOA Magazine, Americana, Science, Cultural, Letters.
20:00 Special English, News.
20:15 VOA World Report: Music USA (Jazz).
21:00 News ... newsmakers' reports ... background features ... news analyses.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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Fire headquarters " 22890
First aid, fire, police " 18
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency) " 36381-3
Municipal water service (emergency) " 57111-3
Police headquarters " 39141
Najfeh, roving patrol rescue police, (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency help " 21111, 57777

Cultural Centres

American Centre (USIS) Tel. 41520
British Council " 36147-8
French Cultural Centre " 37068
Goethe Institute " 41983
Soviet Cultural Centre " 42283
Amman Municipal Library " 36111

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محور اتصال

AMC boosts potash project after 20 years of stagnation

By Fernando Francis
Special to the Jordan Times

Jordan's potash project on the Dead Sea was given a substantial boost last week when the Arab Mining Company (AMC) decided to take a 40 per cent share in what will become a major industry in the Arab World, and a challenger to Israel's own potash industry on the Dead Sea.

This competition, stresses AMC Chairman Dr. Abdul Razzak Al Hashimi, will prompt Israel to put up obstacles or even attempt to nip the project in the bud. The decision to go ahead with the project is a challenge to such international political and economic pressures.

The AMC boosted the Arab Mining Company's (APC) capital from its initial figure of JD 4 million to JD 40 million. This decision, the first time the AMC has participated in a major project, was taken at a meeting of the Board of Administration and was approved by the General Assembly last week.

The potash project is not new. Work on it started in 1957 when it was formed by the Arab League with its headquarters in Amman. The company, since its formation, produced very little due to international political and economic factors.

The first step adopted by the company was to choose Amman as its headquarters was the action of the 20-year-old project, Dr. Al Hashimi said.

The importance of the Jordan potash project is not confined solely to Jordan and AMC, but to the whole Arab world and in particular to Arab countries, including Jordan, in which potash is or will be used as phosphate fertilizer.

The Iraqi plant alone will produce more than 150,000 tonnes of potash each year.

Dr. Al Hashimi added that participation in the Jordanian potash project is considered a cornerstone of Arab economic integration.

The execution of this project is not easy because of the numerous obstacles resulting from international economic and political pressures. These pressures are arising from circles which have no interest in

letting such a large-scale project see the light of day. Therefore, our decision to support this project was a major one and will help the Arabs to come nearer to the realization of their national goals," Dr. Al Hashimi said.

Mentioning objections raised about the project polluting the Dead Sea, he stated that tourism in that region will flourish as a result of the project. New roads, housing estates, markets and schools will be built to ensure the efficient running of the project. He added that the project would not affect the water.

"Israel is currently producing 1.5 million tonnes a year from the Dead Sea. Frankly," he said, "all those who claim that the project will adversely affect the environment are not loyal to Jordan or to the Arabs. The reasons behind such claims are obvious. The Dead Sea is a major source of potash in the world. Israel will face competition for its production exported to international markets, so it will try to put up obstacles or even try to nip the project in the bud. That is the international political and economic factor which I referred to."

The decision by the Board of Administration means that Jordan's potash production will total one million tonnes per annum when production starts in 1982.

The Arab Mining Company was established in 1975 by an Arab Economic Unity Council resolution with a capital of 120 million Kuwaiti dinars. The United Arab Emirates, Iraq, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia each participated with 20 per cent of AMC's capital and Libya and Egypt with 10 per cent each. Syria at first participated with five per cent, but owing to internal economic difficulties reduced its share to one per cent. Jordan, Sudan, Somalia, North and South Yemen and the Arab Investment Company each participated with one per cent of the company's capital.

The aim of the company is to help exploit natural resources in Arab countries, which lack the financial means to carry out such projects -- this means investment outside the Arab oil producing countries.

The company also aims to strengthen economic unity in the Arab world by exploiting natural resources available in some countries and making them available to other Arab countries, which lack this wealth and need it to develop their industries.

The company's administrative organization is governed by a board on which each country is represented by one delegate for every 10 per cent share.

The board will hold its next meeting in Amman -- immediately after the 3rd Arab Mineral Wealth Conference to be attended by Arab experts and officials on mineral extraction. During the conference, the company will explain its aims and will again request from Arab countries details of projects which they wish to implement.

"Since the company's formation, we have been trying our

best to contact Arab countries to provide us with mining projects. The result was the Jordanian potash project, the copper project in Oman and that of phosphates in Egypt.

"The company has concentrated on these three, aiming to complete preliminary studies, and prepare projects for implementation. The first project to be carried out is the Jordanian potash project," Dr. Al Hashimi said.

Besides the potash project, the Board of Administration discussed the copper project in Oman. It was decided to ask the Omani government to complete the necessary studies on this project. Also, the Omani government was asked to find financial sources to finance its share of the project.

The board also asked the Egyptian government to complete studies on the phosphate

project in Mahameed. Preliminary studies show that their raw material contains only 16 per cent phosphate, while Jordanian phosphate is richer: 24-25 per cent. The board expressed its wish to participate in any other project the Egyptian government wanted to implement.

The board also discussed a number of small projects costing less than JD 1 million, such as the gypsum project in Syria.

Such projects were postponed in order to study mining prospects in North Africa, which are considered good.

The General Assembly met with the representatives of the member-states attending. The delegates discussed the annual report and financial report for 1976/77 and approved the 1977 budget, concluded Dr. Al Hashimi.

NATIONAL NOTES

* AMMAN. — Three new ambassadors were sworn in before Prince Hassan, the Viceroy, at the Royal Court Tuesday. They are: Murtasem Al Bihisi, Hani Tabbara and Sami Al Shamayleh, who were appointed to Switzerland, Morocco and Tunisia respectively.

* AMMAN. — Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Ghaleb Barakat Tuesday received in his office the Moroccan ambassador in Amman. The two men discussed promotion of tourist cooperation between the two countries.

* AMMAN. — Minister of Culture and Youth Sharif Fawwaz Sharaf Tuesday received the Moroccan ambassador and the Bulgarian chargé d'affaires in Amman.

* AMMAN. — Resolutions and recommendations taken by the Joint Jordanian-Syrian Agricultural Committee were debated at a meeting chaired by Minister of Agriculture Salah Juma Tuesday. The meeting adopted recommendations submitted by the committee on the desert, marketing, planning and plant and animal production. Another meeting is scheduled next Tuesday to debate recommendations by other committees.

* AMMAN. — A delegation from the Jordanian Department of Civil Aviation will leave here Saturday for Uruguay to discuss with competent authorities there the conclusion of a bilateral agreement on air transport between the two countries.

* AMMAN. — Directors of civil aviation departments in the Arab countries will open their meeting at Geneva Wednesday. Before leaving here for Geneva to attend the conference, the Director of the Jordanian Department of Civil Aviation, Sharif Ghazi Rakan, said Tuesday the three-day meeting will discuss coordination and cooperation between the International Air Transport Association, representing international civil aviation companies, and the Arab Air Carriers' Organisation.

* AMMAN. — Liaison officers in ministries and other government departments responsible for following up implementation of Five-Year Development Plan projects held a meeting at the National Planning Council Tuesday. The Secretary General of the Planning Council, Dr. Tayssir Abdul Jabbar, explained the aims of the projects and the sums allotted for their execution.

* AMMAN. — A team of Japanese electronics engineers, now visiting Jordan, Tuesday held discussions with members of the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) on cooperation in the field of electronics between Japan and the RSS, and the assistance which Japan can give the RSS in this respect.

* AMMAN. — The military Governor General has approved a sentence of eight years hard labour and a JD 3,000 fine passed by the military court on Fawzi Mohammad Faraj Al Fahoum, convicted for hashish trafficking.

* AMMAN. — During a meeting with members of the Amman Rotary Club Tuesday, First Secretary at the Nationalist Chinese Embassy, Mr. Shuang Jeff Yao, spoke on aspects of Jordanian-Chinese economic cooperation. He reviewed Jordanian projects which China is helping to finance and execute, notably the Ghor Al Safi-Aqaba road, which will be used to transport potash from the Dead Sea to Aqaba for export.

* AMMAN. — A new administrative body of the Jordanian Economists' Association was elected Monday. Dr. Hashem Dabbas was elected chairman, Dr. Ussama Al Azab secretary general and Adnan Al Hindi, Ghassan Ali, Fawzi Sadeq and Odeh Sweiss as members.

* AMMAN. — Gen. Samuel F. Wilson of the U.S. army left here after a short visit to Jordan during which he met with Commander-in-Chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces Gen. Zaid Ibn Shaker and visited a number of military training centres.

Settlers urge govt. to allow Mas'ha colony

AMMAN (JNA). — The Jerusalem Arabic-language daily Al Quds has said the Israeli drive to colonise the occupied Arab territories was stepped up following a call by Jewish settlers for the opening of the West Bank and other areas to large-scale settlement.

The newspaper said that this was confirmed when some 500 would-be settlers Monday asked the Israeli government to put into immediate effect a resolution which the Israeli Ministerial Committee for Settlement Affairs had taken to set up, in principle, a settlement in the Mas'ha locality, near Jerusalem.

Al Quds said they also called for settlement in an area west of Nablus as a first step towards opening up the mountainous regions in the West Bank and elsewhere to large-scale Jewish settlement. They further demanded that colonies at Khan Al Ahmar, on the Jerusalem-Jericho road, Kafr Qaddum and Ain Yabroud be confirmed as permanent settlements.



FOR MOHAMMAD'S BIRTHDAY -- A scout parade approaches the centre of Amman Tuesday. (JNA photo).

RURAL AID PROJECTS CARRIED OUT IN MASTABA

AMMAN (JT). — Through the cooperation of the Jordan Rural Development Society and the Catholic Relief Services (CRS), 6,000 olive seedlings and 1,000 fruit trees are being planted in the Mastaba area, it was recently announced by Dr. Ali Hussein and Mrs. Marie Di Salvo Schmidt, CRS Director for Jordan.

Each participating farmer is paying only 50 fils as his share. Catholic Relief and the Rural Development Society are paying 50/50 for the balance of the cost. These trees are of the best and strongest varieties. In the near future, and for many years to come, they will furnish the villagers with higher nutrition and financial gains through sales from the surplus.

Recently, 23 Shami goats were distributed in Mastaba. These were purchased jointly by the Rural Development Society and Catholic Relief Services so that the children in this village will have added protein in their diet.

In the future, when new kids are born, there will be more milk than needed, and this too can be sold to help purchase other necessities for the villagers. These are all pilot projects that will be expanded in the future through the cooperation of the two societies and the villagers.

A total of 5,000 olive seedlings have also been planted in the Madaba area in cooperation with CRS and the Jordan Cooperative Society. These olive trees were planted in farms in the Menja, Um Romana, Kfir Lokir and Ma'in area.

Participating farmers paid 50 per cent of the cost of the trees and Catholic Relief Services paid the rest. Within several years these trees, as well as those planted in Mastaba and the Salt Governorate -- also in cooperation with the Jordan Cooperative Society -- will yield around eight kgs of olives annually per tree, and more each year for many years to come.

THE BRITISH COUNCIL ANNOUNCES

The beginning of a new term of English classes on Monday, March 21. Those wishing to register for classes should come to the centre on Monday, March 7 or as soon as possible after that date. The centre is open from 8.00 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. Monday to Saturday, and from 4.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. Monday to Thursday. Fees for one term of 40 lessons are JD 9.

Youth minister states Department to be set up on child education

AMMAN (JNA). — The Ministry of Culture and Youth will pay special attention to the education of children. For this purpose, it will establish a specialised department on childhood and their education in cooperation with the Ministry of Information and all organisations and societies working in this field.

Minister of Culture and Youth Sharif Fawwaz Sharaf said this Monday during a meeting at his ministry with Jordanian authors and men of letters.

Sharif Fawwaz, explaining his ministry's future plans and activities, said that he is intent on completing the Royal Theatre at Al Hussein Youth City, and is working to establish a national library.

The ministry is also studying a system of government awards to be allocated to outstanding writers and authors. Following its decision to encourage them, the ministry will hold in June -- for the first time -- an exhibition of books by Jordanian authors and books on Jordan written in the 20th century, the minister added.

The ministry will, in addition, establish a national museum because of Jordan's wealth in archaeology, antiquities and traditional handicrafts.

CONGRATULATIONS FLOW IN FOR PROPHET'S BIRTHDAY

AMMAN (JNA). — The Royal Hashemite Court has received a large number of congratulatory messages addressed to Prince Hassan, the Viceroy, on the occasion of the birthday of the Prophet, which is celebrated Wednesday.

Among the wellwishers were Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Speaker of the Upper House Bahjat Talhouni, Commander-in-Chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces Gen. Zaid Ibn Shaker, top civilian and military officials, religious dignitaries, representatives of official and public bodies, trade unions, tribal sheikhs, mayors and a host of private citizens.

YARMOUK UNL TO ATTEND PUBLICITY MEET IN BAGHDAD

IRBID (JNA). — Yarmouk University will participate in a three-day seminar on scientifically-oriented publicity in Baghdad Wednesday.

The university will be represented by Dr. Abdul Majid Nusseir, Director of Student Affairs, who left Amman Tuesday for Baghdad to attend the seminar.

Dr. Nusseir will present a paper on problems and methods of scientific research work and publicity, and his suggestions for getting over problems.

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THE BRITISH COUNCIL presents

INTERNATIONAL LIBRARY COOPERATION by Mr. Stephen Parker of Library Development Consultants at the British Council Hall on Thursday, March 3, at 6.30 p.m.

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What's Going On

A film entitled "Acis High". 6.30 p.m., at the British Council, Jabal Amman.

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Pretences fog hopes for significant world disarmament

As President Carter takes over the most powerful job in the world the question will be asked: Can he prove any more effective than his predecessors in arresting the arms race between the super-powers?

Since World War Two ended 32 years ago eighteen treaties have been signed -- all aimed at bringing about varying degrees of disarmament.

Yet none has had any major effect on arms development. It has been a record of duplicity on a scale unequalled in world history.

Not one single weapon, plane, ship, tank or rifle has been destroyed by agreement between any two nations. The only exception is biological weapons.

Meantime, though there has been no world war since 1945, between 15 and 20 million people have died in one war or another.

The author of this carefully researched report concludes on a sombre note: "There will be no disarmament that matters."

NEW YORK, (Gemin) — This year is the 32nd since the end of World War Two and in that time between 15 and 20 million people have died in one war or another. The new American President has spoken of his interest in further agreements on arms control, primarily of strategic weapons, in the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT).

It may be asked: With what result? For the record of world behaviour since World War Two is one of unprecedented duplicity.

The reality is that there has been an arms race, in nuclear weapons, since the end of the war, the like of which the world has never seen before, even though over the same time span, there has been an extended series of negotiations on various treaties and proposed treaties for "arms control".

There are now seven "multilateral" treaties in force:

1. The Partial, or Limited, Test Ban Treaty (1963).
2. The Non-proliferation Treaty (1968).
3. The Antarctic Treaty (1959).
4. The Outer Space Treaty (1967).
5. The Latin American Nuclear Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Tlatelolco) (1967).
6. The Sea Bed Treaty (1971).

7. The Biological Weapons Convention (1972).

There are also some eleven "bilateral" (U.S.-USSR) agreements or treaties, starting with the "hot line" agreement of 1963, but for the most part, made since 1971 during the recent SALT negotiations.

All have had little or no effect on the strategic arms race. Not one single nuclear weapon, airplane, ship, tank or rifle has been destroyed by agreement between any two nations.

The postwar series of arms control efforts began with the 1946-49 period of the "Baruch Plan". The original proposal, actually written by Oppenheimer, Acheson and Lillenthal, sought to prohibit further development of nuclear weapons while installing an international regime to control civilian uses of nuclear energy, primarily nuclear power reactors.

As negotiator for this proposal, President Truman selected a businessman, Bernard Baruch. Baruch proceeded to insert, against the strong advice of the three original authors and of his own legal counsel, three short additions:

- That the U.S. would continue to produce and would not destroy its own bomb stockpile until the new regime was completed and operating;
- A provision for the control and inspection of all atomic facilities on the territories of all signatories; and
- A removal of the Security Council veto provisions in regard to aspects of the proposed regime.

Nearly everyone involved in policy discussions on the matter said these inserted provisions would determine a Soviet rejection of the plan, which is exactly what took place. Whether the USSR would have accepted the original proposals, or any version of them, is unknown.

Perhaps not. But the inclusion of these three requirements made rejection a near certainty. The positions of the U.S. and the USSR were diametrically opposed, and neither would budge from its respective position.

By 1950, the U.S. attitude towards nuclear weapons had undergone essential changes. The U.S. no longer wanted to destroy all its own nuclear weapons once the Soviets had tested one of their own, and it did not trust the USSR to destroy its own.

It is not likely that the proposals would have been accepted had the Soviets suddenly agreed to them. The Baruch Plan was quietly withdrawn in 1954.

A second phase began in the early fifties and came to a climax in August 1955. Discussions had moved to proposals for "General and Complete Disarmament" (GCD). Alternating proposals, draft treaties and schedules were presented by the U.S., the Soviet Union, France and Britain.

These differed in the stages by which they would proceed, the sequence of weapons to be dealt with, the level of weapons that would remain at different stages, and the amount of inspection that would be necessary or would be permitted.

In May 1955, after years of debate, the Soviet Union reversed nearly all its essential positions and presented a proposal that was, in effect, composed of elements of previous British and French plans.

These, in turn, were based largely on U.S. proposals. Not least of all, inspection on Soviet territory was accepted. Within eight days, the U.S. demanded a recess. Upon the resumption of the session, the U.S. placed "a reservation upon all its pre-Geneva substantive positions taken in this Subcommittee or in the Disarmament Commission or in the U.N. on those questions in relationship to levels of armaments."

In effect, everything was withdrawn. Seemingly all the proposals had previously been made only because it was assumed that none would ever be accepted, and no very serious considerations had even been given to them before in the U.S. Government itself.

But it is questionable whether the topic was ever taken seriously by the USSR or policy-makers or diplomats of other nations.

The next period saw the relinquishing of discussions about GCD, and the initiation of moves for "limited measures",

These began to focus on measures for aerial inspection and on Central European disengagement.

These negotiations were carried out for the U.S. by Harold Stassen, President Eisenhower's special assistant, at the London Disarmament Conference. Again, a crisis occurred, in 1959, at the verge of what appeared to be agreement with the USSR on a "package" of several proposals.

The Soviets had again apparently accepted the U.S. proposals. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles flew to London and brought Stassen home. With this failure, efforts were turned to primarily bilateral negotiations for "partial" controls, individual measures concerning one issue at a time.

In the late fifties, negotiations began for a comprehensive test ban. The U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff were opposed to such a treaty, however, because it would have impeded development of new strategic weapon systems and warheads. Neither President Eisenhower nor President Kennedy chose to challenge them on the issue.

After five years, a partial test ban was signed. The U.S. and the USSR have gone on to conduct more underground nuclear tests in the 15 years from 1963 to 1976 than in the 19 years -- 1945 to 1963 -- that preceded the treaty.

Furthermore, it has only recently become public that the USSR and the U.S. reached tacit and secret agreements in 1963 for a 10% reduction in defence budgets and for some troop withdrawals in Central Europe. The U.S. subsequently sacrificed these agreements to the requirements of the build-up for the war in Vietnam.

In the Outer Space Treaty, the prohibition agreed to was against placing nuclear weapons in space orbits. All other military satellite systems in space were permitted as well as the destruction of these by one side or the other. Satellite intercept and destruction systems positioned at the time have since become a reality.

However, placing nuclear weapons themselves in orbit had serious drawbacks in the form of exorbitant cost and accuracy. We were thus able to make our own domestic policy decision to forego these.

In the Sea Bed Treaty, the Soviets had originally proposed a ban on all military systems in the sea or on the seabed. The U.S. insisted on a limitation only of strategic weapons physically fixed on or embedded in the sea floor.

Again, the U.S. Navy had already made the policy decision that it preferred mobile strategic nuclear weapon systems to be carried in submarines for its further forces, and that it did not want fixed, bottom-mounted ones. Hence, we could agree to that restriction.

The decision to give up the U.S. biological weapons capability for the Biological Weapons Convention was essentially a decision made to enable the U.S. simultaneously to retain its chemical weapon capability. The proposals that had been made by other nations required

a ban on production and deployment of both.

Many had strong hopes for the precedent of treaties for regional nuclear weapon free zones.

However, no other geographical grouping of nations has sought to follow-up the Latin American Treaty, and none is expected to do so. And in the Latin American case, Brazil "signed" with caveats that make clear to all that it is likely to develop nuclear weapons, which will end the treaty in fact and in purpose.

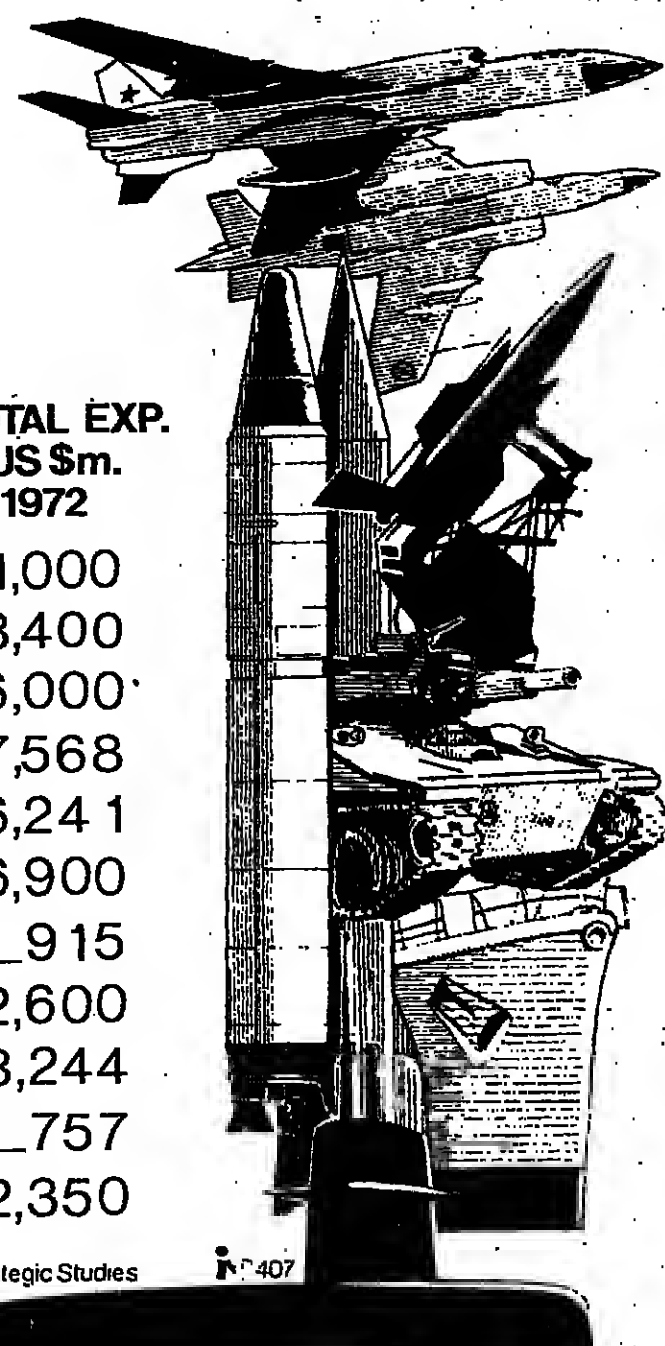
In yet other cases, throughout the fifties and sixties, the U.S. and the USSR made proposals designed to undercut some weapon system, capability, or activity of the other side, but to leave the proposer's own capabilities and deployments intact. (Such sugges-

	TOTAL EXP. US \$m. 1976	TOTAL EXP. US \$m. 1972
USSR (Est.)	114,000	91,000
USA	100,100	83,400
China (Est.)	*17,000	16,000
W. Germany	12,605	17,568
France	10,661	6,241
Britain	10,353	6,900
Iran	9,500	915
Japan	5,058	2,600
Italy	3,470	3,244
Nigeria	2,434	757
Poland	2,252	2,350

Figures from Institute for Strategic Studies

* 1974 figure

The world's armoury increases despite efforts to slow down.



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Drought portends ruin of California farmers

SANTA MONICA (FT). — California's farmers and ranchers are currently facing a crisis with the state experiencing one of its worst droughts in history. America's number one farming state relies on its complex irrigation systems to produce the astonishing variety of grain, fruit, vegetable and other crops that flourish here. It needs rain too, for the range grass that feeds the beef and dairy herds.

But the rains have not come. Some winter storms dampened holiday spirits over the Christmas season, but did little to alleviate what farmers are calling the worst drought for a century. Agricultural losses last year, the third driest on record, approached \$1 billion and unless the state receives quite exceptional amounts of wet weather in coming months, 1977 will go down as the driest year in California history.

Serious water shortages are being predicted for the summer, and already Governor Edmund Brown has asked the president to declare a state of emergency in 23 northern and central California counties. His request is chiefly intended to help sheep and cattle ranchers, who are the worst-hit, with natural forage killed by the drought, they have been compelled to buy hay at 100 dollars a ton, or costly feed grains.

"We are faced with severe hardship on the land," said Governor Brown. "Unless rain falls, people are going to have to make sacrifices. Everyone's got to share this drought."

Cattle and sheep ranchers suffered losses of at least \$30 million last year with many ranchers forced to sell off their herds, some keeping only their

breeding stock, others going out of business. In some places, drinking water is being trucked in for livestock.

The dry times hold serious implications for the national economy. Amid the publicity generated by California's shower industries -- aerospace, electronics, offshore oil and the like -- it sometimes forgotten that this is the nation's biggest food bowl. Agriculture annually turns over more than \$8.7 billion dollars, providing 25 per cent of the nation's table food and nearly 50 per cent of its fresh fruit and vegetables.

What makes it all possible is a vast network of canals, aqueducts, dams and pumping stations that constitute perhaps the world's most elaborate water delivery system keeping lush areas like the San Joaquin Valley from reverting to desert.

At the heart of the system is the 444-mile California Aqueduct, a "man-made river" which carries millions of tons of water from the North to the South where most of the state's 20 million people live, feeding the Central plains en route.

Unhappily, neither North nor South have enjoyed much rainfall in the past two winters. The great Northern reservoirs are dangerously low, and when the city fathers of Los Angeles decided last September to take more water from the Owens Valley in Central California, valley residents fought back with court actions and violence.

A bomb under one aqueduct sent more than 100 billion gallons of water spilling out over the dried-up land. Water has become the state's most controversial economic and political issue -- who pays for it, who profits from it.

The growers' wrath is understandable, when one considers the vast consumption a sometimes wanton wastage the Southern cities. But many water agencies have already unheeded conservation drive mailing leaflets to consumers listing simple steps they can take to cut down on their use of this crucial resource. No housing down of sidewalks jars packed with sand in toilet tank to save some that 5 to 7 gallons which down the drain each time it is flushed. Appeals are also being made to the pocket: it takes vast amounts of electricity pump water from the North and Southerners are being told that saving water will help keep both their energy and the water bills down.

Economists forecast some increased consumer prices through 1977, with more to come if the drought continues. It will probably be driven up further this year. Some fruits and vegetables may follow suit. Tomato crop was badly hit. Tropical storms last autumn just as it was ready for harvesting, figs and raisins were damaged while the Napa Valley premium wine-grape harvest was almost halved by the drought.

Cash-crop losses and the growers' troubles could wipe out many jobs in the coming year as sales drop and services are cut back. If the federal government responds to Governor Brown's call and steps in with relief funds and subsidies, smaller and shakier among California's 60,000-odd farms will be rescued, but the deeper impact on the state's agricultural and linked business will be a for some time to come.

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مركز الصناعات

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF

© 1977 by Chicago Tribune

vulnerable South

NORTH
♠ J104
♥ A64
♦ K7653
♣ K10

EAST
♠ KQ93
♥ J853
♦ QJ82
♣ 109

SOUTH
♠ A76
♥ KQ972
♦ 4
♣ A742

bidding:
West North East
Pass 20 Pass
Pass 30 Pass
Pass Pass Pass
100 lead: Eight of ♠

tricks, and though declarer got a club discard on the king of diamonds, he ended up losing two spades, a diamond and a trump.

The second declarer adopted a sounder line. The opening lead suggested that East had the missing spade honors, so South allowed the

queen of spades to hold the first trick.

Since East could not profitably continue a spade, he shifted to the queen of clubs. Declarer won in dummy.

my, crossed to his hand with the ace of clubs and led a diamond. West hopped up with the ace and reverted to spades, but declarer was a

move ahead in the game.

He won the ace of spades, ruffed a club in dummy and discarded a spade on the king of diamonds. After

cashing the ace of hearts, he led a diamond from dummy. Since it would not have helped to ruff, East discarded

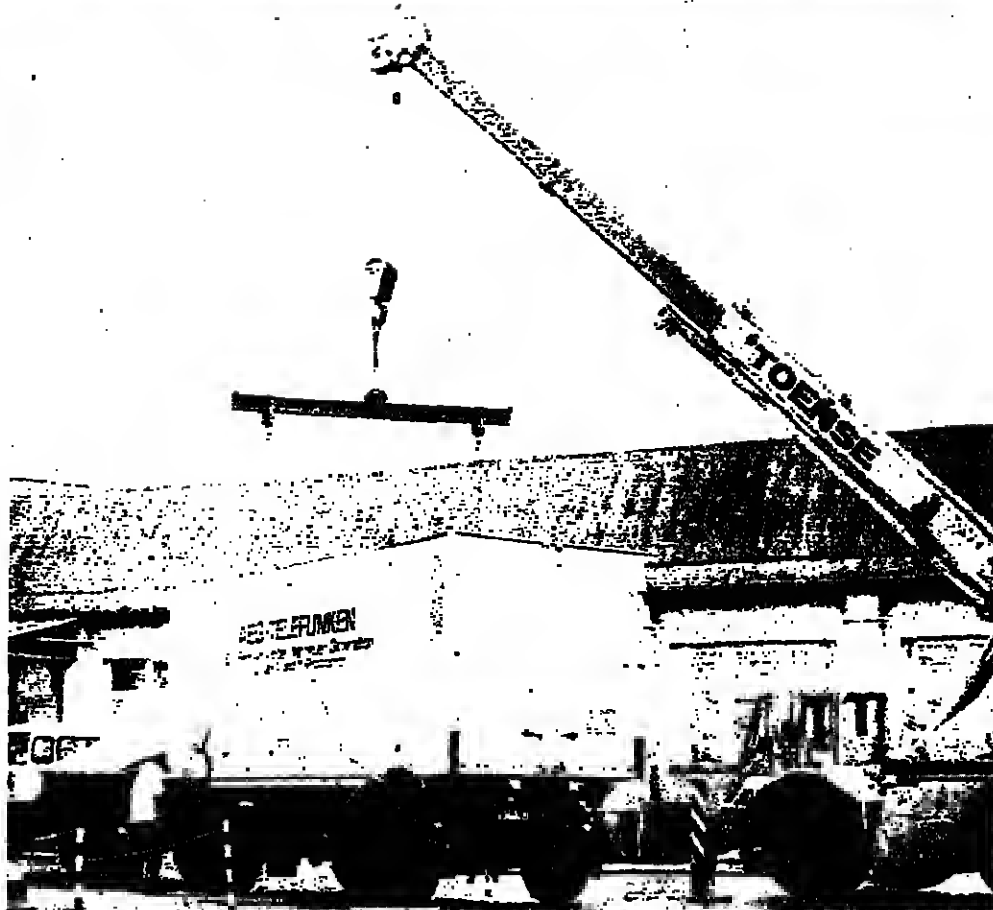
ed a spade. Declarer ruffed, then ruffed a club in dummy. East overruffed and continued with the queen of

spades, but declarer read the position perfectly. He ruffed with the nine of trumps, and took the last two tricks with two high trumps.

The expedient maneuver of holding up the ace of

spades on the first round enabled declarer to hold his losers to one spade, one diamond and one overruff.

THE PAGE FIVE FEATURE PHOTO



ON THE AIR — Three West German firms have jointly developed a mobile television transmitter for the Federal Post Office, which intends using it for programmes on two national channels. The 10-kilowatt transmitter can be transported in a container to any part of the country, and can be used to keep transmissions on the air while repair or maintenance work is being done to the main transmitters. The portable transmitter also has a highly-sensitive sound volume capacity.

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, MAR. 2, 1977

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from the CARROLL RIGTER INSTITUTE

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day when you would be wise to develop your talents in career activities. Make sure you let others know you value the association. You can easily gain the support you need at this time.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Show more affection for the one you love and get better results. Make plans to engage in favorite hobby with congenials.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Showing more devotion to family members can bring more harmony in the home. Consult an expert for advice you need.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Be sure to handle any communications in a most intelligent way and be alert to any dangers. Don't neglect correspondence.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Study financial matters and figure a way to add to present abundance. Make the evening a happy one.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Make long-range plans for the future with associates. Engage in social activities later in the day with persons you really like.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Make the plans that will gain you the personal aims that mean the most to you. Sidestep one who has an eye on your assets.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You now understand better what associates expect of you and cooperate more intelligently with them. Show more devotion to mate.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Know what your true position is with higher-ups and get more support from them. Show that you have real ability.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Looking into new outlets is fine now since they could prove profitable for you. Show more devotion to those at home.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Contact business expert for advice you need. You can be happy from a romantic standpoint later in the day.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Know what your real position is with associates who are important in your scheme of life. Give compliments where deserved.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Much can be accomplished if you get an early start today. Take time to improve your health via the right treatments.

GRAFFITI

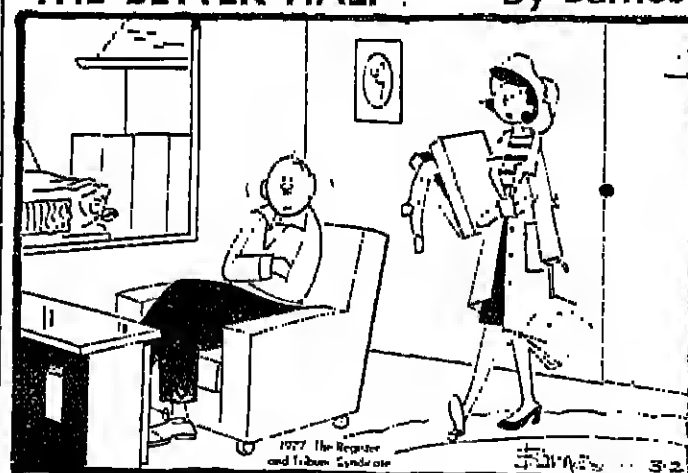
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THE BETTER HALF By Barnes



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MYSTERY MOVIE: MCMILLAN: DARK SUNRISE

A university professor is obliged to commit a series of murders to cover up for the theft of a large quantity of gold hidden in a church.

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by Heinz Arnold and Bob Lee

Scramble these four Jumbles, letter to each square, to form ordinary words.

GULIE

EERA

AHRDY

AUBIL

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Jumbles: OLDER HOVEL AFFRAY TWINGE

Answer: Her boyfriend went down with a cry of pain - "FELL-OW"

WORD PUZZLE

30. Adjective suffix

32. Queen of the fairs

33. Cajoled

35. Heart

36. Thing in law

37. Greenland Eskimo

39. Straighten

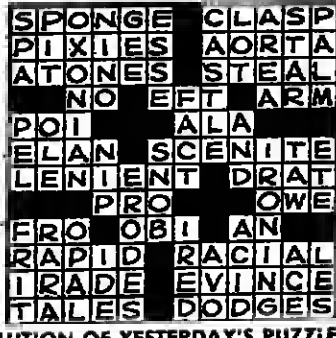
42. Turbine wheel housing

45. Principle

46. Knobbed

47. Curl

48. Landing place of the Ark



Indira Gandhi's election foe is sure of "defeating her by a large margin"

NEW DELHI, March 1 (AFP). — Opposition Janata Party leader Raj Narain, opponent of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in the March parliamentary poll, said yesterday he was confident of defeating her by a large margin.

Mr. Narain, who was trounced by Mrs. Gandhi from the same constituency of Rae Bareilly by 100,000 votes in the 1971 poll, told a press conference that Mrs. Gandhi used "foul means" last time to win the election.

Mr. Narain recalled the Allahabad High Court verdict which found Mrs. Gandhi guilty of "electoral malpractices" in June 1975, although this verdict was later reversed by the Supreme Court.

Mr. Narain, in Delhi to address a rally today for the Janata Party campaign.

Nevertheless, most observers here believe the Congress Party of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi will probably win the general election two weeks from now

but only by a narrow margin.

The party needs a majority of over 271 seats in the 542-seat Lok Sabha (lower house of parliament). Most political analysts foresee a drop in the Congress Party majority from its present 350 seats to less than 300.

But Mrs. Gandhi has a strong card she might play just a few days before the election -- announcing the end of the state of emergency, in effect since June 26, 1975.

The premier, who was sick at the start of February, is now campaigning vigorously.

She seemed nervous and under strain after veteran Congress leader Jagjivan Ram resigned from the party and government on Feb. 2 in protest against the continuing state of emergency.

But now she has regained her fighting spirit and is campaigning in constituencies all over the country.

Those predicting a new Congress majority point out that Mr.

Ram was the only figure with a nationwide following who quit the party.

The sister of Mrs. Gandhi's father, the late Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, also turned her back on the party to campaign with the opposition. But the defection of the aunt, Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit, 76, is considered a limited setback to the Congress Party.

The party retains a powerful organisation well-implanted in the country and well-financed. The mass of illiterate rural people traditionally vote for the party as recommended by village leaders.

But the opposition might win important victories in big cities such as Calcutta, Bombay, New Delhi and Madras.

The Janata Party and the break-away Congress for Democracy of Mr. Ram have much urban support, particularly among intellectuals and middle-class people.

White House indirectly confirms reports of secret U.S.-Chinese accord over Taiwan

WASHINGTON, March 1 (AFP). — White House spokesman Jody Powell indirectly confirmed yesterday a report by American columnist Joseph Kraft saying President Jimmy Carter was unaware of the existence of certain secret agreements between former President Richard Nixon and the late Chairman Mao Tse-tung of China.

One of the secret accords reportedly called for the United States to break relations with Taiwan within two years after publication of the U.S.-Chinese Changhai communique of February 1972.

Mr. Powell said some secret documents from the Nixon administration were still in archives Mr. Nixon had left in the White House. Mr. Nixon is trying to win control of the archives in the courts. They were left in the White House after Mr. Nixon's resignation pending completion of prosecutions in the Watergate scandal.

The report, put out over the weekend by columnist Joseph Kraft, said that although there was no proof, the promise was "evidently made" during a 1972 meeting between former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and the late Chairman Mao Tse-tung.

On Sunday, Secretary of State Cyrus Vance acknowledged that the Carter administration was looking for any documents that would support suggestions of a U.S.-Chinese agreement on the future of Taiwan.

King Hassan grafts four main Moroccan leaders into cabinet

MARAKESH, March 1 (AFP). — King Hassan II today brought the leaders of Morocco's four main political parties into the government as ministers of state.

The move signalled that the monarch and the political leaders had finally reached agreement before the forthcoming legislative elections, which will be the final stage in the establishment of a democratic system undertaken by King Hassan.

The four political leaders are Mr. Mohammed Boucetta, Secretary General of the rightwing traditionalist Istiqlal Party, Mr. Abdul Rahim Bouabid, First Secretary of the leftwing Socialist Union of Popular Forces, and Mr. Mahjoubi Ahdane and Mr. Abdul Krim Al Khatib.

Both Mr. Ahdane, Secretary General of the Berber People's Movement and Mr. Al Khatib, Secretary General of the Cons-

titutional Democratic People's Movement, are moderates. The four were named ministers of state after talks with King Hassan this morning in the presence of Prime Minister Ahmad Osman.

The legislative election expected to be postponed several weeks from the date of April 1 in order to allow for the registration of voters and of national voting cards.

Rhodesia asks Britain to investigate murder reports

SALISBURY, March 1 (AFP). — The Rhodesian government today announced it has formally asked the British government to investigate reports that 15 Rhodesian black school students had been murdered in Zambia because they refused to fight for the Zimbabwe African Peoples Union (ZAPU) of Joshua Nkomo.

The request was contained in a telegram to the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office. In it, the Rhodesian government said the children were reported to have been murdered and their bodies buried in the bush near a guerrilla training camp 25 kms. north of Lusaka.

The 15 were believed to be among 400 taken to Botswana from Manama Mission School on Jan. 30 by nationalist guerrillas. The children, most of whom turned down the opportunity of returning to Rhodesia, were later flown to Zambia as potential guerrilla recruits.

The move followed statements by the International Cross, a government spokesman.

The students were back in Rhodesia for "meanwhile the government pressing for the return" of the 12 students from the group, the spokesman said. Unofficial estimates of the number of children from border regions south at about 1,000.

Yesterday the young Hess rejected suggestions the Soviet Union also be blamed for his father's detention.

"If it was really the Soviet Union who did it," he said, "I use their veto."

Under regulations published, Herr Hess the four wartime years that if one of the drew from the control dan, the prison was down and its inmates turned to those who first brought them to Nuremberg.

In the case of Herr Hitler's deputy, cessor-elect until 1941, parachuted into Scotland an abortive peace mission would be Britain.

The official allied denied any knowledge a regulation.

Black teenagers suffered most in last year's Soweto troubles, says eyewitness

By Sylvie Shahshahani

PARIS, March 1 (AFP). — Mrs. Ruth Mompoti, a member of the women's section of South Africa's banned African National Congress (ANC), today said that French Alouette helicopters were used by police to quell last year's demonstrations in Soweto, the sprawling black city outside Johannesburg.

She called on France to put a total halt to all arms sales to South Africa, as well as all investments there.

Mrs. Mompoti, a former school teacher and mother of three daughters, said South African police were particularly repressive towards children and this was leading to the "break-up of entire families."

She said there were "hundreds of orphans and political widows."

Addressing a press conference called by the Union of French Women -- an organisation of 100,000 members which was formed during the war -- Mrs. Mompoti added "many parents in Soweto still do not know what happened to their children after the riots."

She cited the death of Mr. Joseph Mdhuli as a case of police brutality. He was arrested on suspicion of being a member of the ANC and 12 hours later was dead. His wife was only allowed to see his body 48 hours later and she "noticed a deep gash at the back of his head and his face was completely swollen."

Some of the Soweto children arrested by police were only eight years old. Mrs. Mompoti said she had met a 16-year-old schoolgirl who was tortured by electricity. But despite the wave of arrests anti-government acts still took place in Soweto in the form of "sabotage, strikes

and the destruction of stations."

Mrs. Mompoti, who came to Europe, sixteen years ago had had a bad education, and she hoped European men would provide ships.

Mrs. Mompoti will be tomorrow for East Beze she has been invited International Women's craft Foundation.

AFRICAN SPO BOYCOTT WIDI

LOME, March 1 (R). African boycott of sports involving New will be widened to include countries maintaining links with South Africa, Organisation of African (OAU) Ministerial Council decided here yesterday. African countries have previously restricted only to events in which Zealanders were taking.

But the meeting decided to call on all OAU member states "to refrain participating in all sports taking place in 1978 in which New Zealand any other country making sporting links with South Africa participate."

The boycott began walkout by more than 100 athletes at the 1978 Olympics last July because of the participation of New Zealand whose Rugby Union was touring South Africa. South Africa has been banned from the Olympic movement for practicing apartheid in sport and has also been banned from the various sports.

Martial law lifted from 13 Filipino provinces

MANILA, March 1 (R). — President Ferdinand Marcos today lifted martial law from 13 southern Philippine provinces to allow a plebiscite later this month on the setting up of an autonomous Muslim region.

"... martial law itself is hereby declared lifted in the 13 provinces for purposes of the plebiscite," the president said in a speech at the Philippine Military Academy.

He said that the lifting of ma-

rtial law in the area would allow "an open, free and honest ascertainment of the wishes of the people" on whether they wanted to be included in a unified Muslim autonomous region.

The president declared martial law throughout the Philippines in September 1972 to check what he said was a state of rebellion and to enable him to institute urgent national reforms.

Son of Rudolf Hess accuses maritime all of concerted effort to murder his father

WEST BERLIN, March 1 (R). — The son of former deputy Nazi leader Rudolf Hess yesterday accused the four wartime allied powers of a concerted effort to murder his father in West Berlin's Spandau jail by denying him medical attention for crippling stomach pains.

A spokesman for the four allied powers confirmed earlier that the 82-year-old Herr Hess, Herr Hitler's one-time deputy who has been serving a life sentence in Spandau for war crimes since 1947, slashed his wrist, elbow and foot in his solitary cell last Tuesday in an abortive bid to commit suicide.

It was his third suicide attempt -- he tried to kill himself after his capture by the British in 1941 and again in 1959 in Spandau.

Herr Wolf-Ruediger Hess told a news conference that "what is happening in Spandau at the moment is the slow, planned and agonising murder of my father."

He accused the Western Allies -- Britain, France and the United States -- of failing to back up their statements despite saying Herr Hess should be released.

Yesterday's allied statement was released through the French Military Mission.

The statement said that Herr Hess, who has been the only prisoner in the 600-cell jail since 1966, tried to kill himself, but that he had lost little blood and was given immediate treatment.

The younger Herr Hess, a 39-year-old architect from Munich, said his father was driven to attempt suicide by the psychological strain of being alone for so many years and by three weeks' unbearable stomach pains without proper treatment.

There was a serious risk that Herr Hess would again try to kill himself, his son said. "He is still left alone with these terrible pains an given only in-

diculous tablets and the three Western have publicly urged the of Herr Hess, the last ing Nazi prisoner to be sentenced by the 1946-berg war crimes tribu humanitarian grounds, encountered a consistent veto.

Yesterday the young Hess rejected suggestions the Soviet Union also be blamed for his father's detention.

"If it was really the Soviet Union who did it," he said, "I use their veto."

Under regulations published, Herr Hess the four wartime years that if one of the drew from the control dan, the prison was down and its inmates turned to those who first brought them to Nuremberg.

In the case of Herr Hitler's deputy, cessor-elect until 1941, parachuted into Scotland an abortive peace mission would be Britain.

The official allied denied any knowledge a regulation.

Ethiopia seeks closer ties with Communist bloc

ADDIS ABABA, March 1 (R). — Ethiopia and Yugoslavia have expressed concern in a joint communique over the situation in northeast Africa following a visit to Yugoslavia by the number two man in Ethiopia's ruling Military Council, Lieut. Col. Atanafu Abate.

The colonel returned here last night after a four-day official visit to Yugoslavia, his first trip abroad since his appointment as vice chairman of the Military Council last month.

Ethiopia, whose military government is adopting an increasingly Marxist stance, is seeking closer relations with the Communist bloc.

The communique issued at the end of the colonel's visit said: "The two sides have been following with keen interest and concern the ever more difficult situation in the region of Africa where Ethiopia is located."

This country has growing disputes with Sudan and Somalia.

The communique said Ethiopia and Yugoslavia "condemn the pressure and attempts coming from imperialist forces which aimed at turning the open and unsettled problems affecting relations between some countries of this region, and beyond, into a zone of conflict with major consequences."

It stressed the responsibility of non-aligned countries to seek means to resolve their conflicts "in direct contacts on the basis of full equality, mutual understanding and respect."

On bilateral relations, the communique said "special attention was devoted to the prospects for further cooperation between the two countries."

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

TEL AVIV, March 1 (R). — Two former senior Israeli Agriculture Ministry officials were jailed today for corruption. Mr. Yigal Drucker, who served as spokesman for the ministry and Poultry Council, received a 30-month jail term and a 45,000 Israeli pound (about \$3,000) fine. An economist for the council, Mr. Benzion Deutsch, was imprisoned for 18 months and fined 10,000 Israeli pounds (about \$700).

UNITED NATIONS, March 1 (AFP). — The Security Council's mission of enquiry into the January alleged mercenary invasion of Benin has returned to New York and meets today to prepare its report. Delegates, resenting Panama, Libya and India were said to differ slightly in their conclusions.

UNITED NATIONS, March 1 (R). — President Carter plans to visit the United Nations in the near future and he might address the world body, a U.N. spokesman said yesterday. The United States assumed the presidency of the Security Council today, for March, and there has been speculation that Mr. Carter might come here during the month, possibly taking the chair at a council meeting.

SAN SALVADOR, March 1 (R). — After a day of bloody post-selection riots, the government of El Salvador has restricted civil and political liberties and the defeated candidate for president has fled the country. At least five people were killed and 50 injured in clashes between troops and rioters yesterday, Red Cross officials said. Opposition supporters claim that Col. Ernesto Caramount and his Vice Presidential running mate, Senor Jose Morales Ehrlich, were cheated of victory by the government in the presidential election 10 days ago.

LONDON, March 1 (AFP). — Prime Minister James Callaghan and Foreign Secretary David Owen will stop over in Ottawa for talks with Canadian leaders after their scheduled visit to Washington later this month, it was officially announced here today.

CHICAGO, March 1 (AFP). — Cancer disturbs the sufferer's tasting organisms, which is why people with the disease tend to lose their appetites and eat less, according to Dr. William Dewys of North-Western University here. Dr. Dewys studied 50 cancer sufferers and found that they lost the ability to taste sweet foods, while becoming increasingly aware of bitter products, this change seemed to work in reverse when the sufferer was treated and the cancerous tumour shrank, he said.

ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS NEWS

OPEC price split to be resolved soon, says oil minister of Qatar

VIENNA, March 1 (R). — A senior OPEC minister forecast today that oil-exporting nations will soon end a dispute over prices, cancelling some cost in-

creases already projected for 1977.

Sheikh Abdul Aziz Ibn Khalifeh Al Thani, Qatar's Oil Mi-

nister, said he was confident a compromise would be reached by mid-July to end a two-tier pricing system that has disrupted OPEC unity.

All 13 members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries favoured a single price for their oil, he told a press conference in Vienna.

Current president of the OPEC Ministerial Conference, he said he was continuing mediation efforts between 11 OPEC nations supporting a 15 per cent price rise this year and Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, which are holding out for a total five per cent increase.

"I am trying to find a compromise that satisfies everybody. We will do our best to have a compromise, but it is too early to state when it will be reached. I think we will have a solution" he said.

The Qatari minister said he was confident a compromise would be reached -- "some-

where in the middle" -- before OPEC oil ministers meet for their next regular conference in Stockholm on July 12.

"A compromise means you cannot go to the lower limit or the higher limit. It must be somewhere in the middle," the minister said.

Qatar was opposed to a special ministerial conference on prices at this time when there was nothing new to say, and also rejected proposals for a reopening of the issue.

The minister, who toured several OPEC capitals recently in efforts for a compromise, described himself as a mediator. He said he would be making more visits in this capacity.

"There are so many suggestions. Right now, a compromise is not clear, but I am trying to clarify the situation and put it into a better picture," he declared.

Sheikh Abdul Aziz said it was too early to predict a compromise figure for this year's final price increase.

OPEC prices have risen more than five-fold since 1973, but Saudi Arabia has generally held out for small increases arguing that the world economy cannot withstand major financial shocks.

The 10 per cent increase enforced by 11 OPEC nations in January raised the price of an average 159-litre barrel of OPEC oil to \$12.70.

"If we reach a compromise before July there will be a good chance to delete the five per cent (increase due to take effect on July 1), but I am not too sure about that," the Qatari minister said. "We may delete it or we may leave it."

Congressional committee accepts Carter's budget

WASHINGTON, March 1 (R). — A congressional negotiating committee has agreed to a \$417.45 billion spending budget for fiscal 1977. The budget figure would allow President Carter to go ahead with his programme to stimulate the economy.

The committee, comprised of

members of the House of Representatives and the Senate, agreed yesterday to a revised budget deficit of \$69.75 billion.

The \$417.45 billion budget is a compromise between earlier bills passed by the House and Senate. The compromise is expected to win final Congressional approval within a few days.

Mr. Carter has proposed an economic stimulus package of \$15.7 billion, including a \$50 per person tax rebate and business tax cut.

WALL STREET REPORT

Stock prices climbed steadily in fairly active trading Tuesday on the New York stock exchange where the industrial average gained more than 8 points.

Trading was halted for about an hour at the start of the session following a minor fire in the exchange. But this did not seem to bother investors who apparently decided the market was ripe for a good rally following its recent decline. This was the reason given by most analysts to explain this broad technical gain.

Gainers outnumbered losers at the bell by a wide 1,028 to 408 margin as most groups of shares closed on a steady note with the exception of gold mine issues which suffered sizeable losses. Auto, aircraft, chemical, oil and aluminium shares were very strong. Occidental Petroleum gained 1-1/8 to 24-7/8 in active trading, while Westinghouse rose 1/2 to 17-3/8.

At the close, the industrial average shows at 944.73, a gain of 8.31 points; Transp at 223.75, a gain of 1.85; utilities at 105.67, a gain of 0.38. 19,480,000 shares changed hands, of which 4,010,000 during the last hour.

LONDON MARKET REPORT

The market Tuesday made further headway in small turn-over but at the close equity leaders were sometimes off the top. At 15:00 the F.T. index was up 4.8 at 415.5.

A fall in the U.K. Treasury bill rate prompted further support for government bonds where net rises ranged between 1/8 and 1/2.

Beecham was actively traded and rose speculatively to 438 in response to press comment on its cash position but it eased on a subsequent announcement of an American acquisition for \$52 million to show a net rise of 10p at 418.

Oils met profit-taking and B.P. eased 22p while Shell declined 11p. Banks and insurances were generally higher.

Gold shares weakened with the bullion price. There was small interest reported in tea shares on news that tea prices are to increase.

Unilever's results disappointed operators and the price eased 8p while National Westminster finished 2p higher having shown a 10p gain after the growth in profits. Royal Insurance held an 8p gain scored prior to final figures.

Bats, Metal Box, Thoma and Gus "A" showed net rises of 4p to 10p. Glaxo which had risen 14p in sympathy with Beecham reacted to close a penny easier. ICI was 3p lower while Dunlop lost 2p.

Price of gold closed in London Tuesday at \$141.40/oz.

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